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Art History and Human Aging (KHI Florenz)

Astrid

In conjunction with the Max Planck International Research Network on Aging (MaxNetAging), the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence (Max-Planck-Institut) seeks to appoint a doctoral student to pursue studies in Art History with a focus on human aging.

The scholarship will be granted for two years with the possibility of an additional year, and will preferably start on October 1, 2008. The PhD student will spend an initial period at the Max-Planck-Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany. During this period, the student will attend lectures and seminars organized in the framework of MaxNetAging (see www.maxnetaging.mpg.de). In summer 2009, the PhD student will move to the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence.

Potential research areas include but are not limited to:

- Representations of the ages of life
- The Fountain of Youth in art and literature
- Representations of families including the representation of family trees and ancestral lines
- Physiognomic studies of the elderly
- Youth and beauty as topics of propaganda or commercial art
- Artistic studies of the process of aging
- Gender-specific differentiation in the iconography of aging
- Aging and death (for example, in representations of the dance of death or in tomb sculpture)
- Artists' late work (for example, comparative studies of artists' early and late work or studies of the concept of artists' late work)
- Artists' memoirs
- Visible traces of aging in artists' work (for example, the trembling hand in drawings)

Excellent students with an MA degree or its equivalent are eligible to apply for the fellowship. Applications should include a cover letter describing research interests and relevant experience, a curriculum vitae, the name and contact information of one professional reference, a proposal for the planed dissertation topic (max. 10 pages) and proof of MA/BA certification. Fluency in English is essential. Some knowledge of German and/or Italian, although not essential, is preferred. The application process is open to students of all nationalities.

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The Max Planck Society wishes to increase the number of women in areas in which they are underrepresented, and strongly encourages women to apply. The Max Planck Society is likewise committed to funding more scholars with disabilities and also encourages them to apply.

Applications should be sent - not later than August 31, 2008 - to:

Prof. Dr. Gerhard Wolf Kunsthistorisches Institut Florenz Max-Planck-Institut Via Giuseppe Giusti 44 50121 Florence Italy

Reference:

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